

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

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Fifth District

June 14, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssén

Chief Administrative Officer

STATUS OF PROBATION JUVENILE DETENTION CAMP RECONFIGURATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT STUDY

On February 20, 2007, your Board directed my office, along with the Chief Probation Officer, to develop capital improvement options which would reconfigure the existing infrastructure of the County's detention camps to accommodate the Probation Department's planned transition to evidence-based programs and the integration of best management practices. Your Board further directed our offices to review the availability of alternative sites for additional camps, including property at Barley Flats.

Reconfiguration Study

In response to your Board's motion, we have reviewed space requirements associated with the implementation of evidenced-based programs and the best management practices being proposed by Probation. More specifically, this review entailed an analysis of correctional/rehabilitative program standards currently mandated by the Corrections Standards Authority and the Department of Justice. Such standards require the:

- Housing and education of minors in small groups that do not exceed 20 to 30 individuals per dormitory;
- Design of camps to support a 10:1 ratio of juveniles to supervision staff; and
- Utilization of individual bedrooms for minors in the early phases of intervention treatment during detention, and open dormitories as they transition to later phases of treatment.

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We have also conducted a survey of the facilities and infrastructure at the County's juvenile detention camps with the assistance of the Department of Public Works and its consultant, GKK Works Inc. The review of the camps' physical assets entailed an evaluation of conditions of existing camp facilities and building systems, which consist of 19 detention camps built between 1959 and 1989 and support a total population of approximately 2,200 youth (with an average of 115 youth per camp). Based on this physical survey, we have developed:

- Preliminary design options for the physical reconfiguration of existing structures as well as new facilities. Such options include a sustainability feature that will maximize the useful lives of the structures and comply with the County's Energy and Environmental Policy;
- Sequential phasing strategies that will minimize construction duration and the impact to ongoing programs and operations;
- Site assessments to determine the most feasible and cost effective locations for constructing new facilities at existing camps, including additional sites such as the Barley Flats property; and
- Preliminary estimates for new facility and existing reconfiguration design and construction.

Completion Schedule

We are currently finalizing the organization and presentation of these options and will transmit a draft of our report, with the consultant's report attached, to your offices no later than June 29, 2007. Due to the complexity of this report, we will schedule a briefing for your deputies during the week of July 16, 2007. Based on feedback we receive from your staff, we hope to file the final report on your Board's July 31, 2007 agenda.

I am available to discuss this with you at your convenience, or your staff may contact Jan Takata at (213) 974-1360, or Richard Beltran at (213) 893-7840.

DEJ:JSE DJT:RJB:z

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Probation Department
Department of Public Works